



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt

European Patent Office

Office européen des brevets



(11)

EP 1 271 526 A2

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
02.01.2003 Bulletin 2003/01(51) Int Cl.7: G11B 27/32, G11B 27/30,
H04N 5/782, H04N 5/775,
H04N 5/92, H04N 7/24

(21) Application number: 02013729.5

(22) Date of filing: 20.06.2002

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: 21.06.2001 KR 2001035398

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(54) Method and apparatus of recording a multi-channel stream, and a recording medium containing a multi-channel stream recorded by said method

(57) The present invention relates to method and apparatus of recording a multi-channel data stream on a recording medium in such a manner that substreams of digital channels constituting the multi-channel data stream can be distinguished each other in reproduction. The present recording method records a multichannel stream composed of substreams belonging to plural selected channels on a recording medium, utilizes the re-

corded stream to a single stream object, creates a piece of search information for each substream contained in the recorded multichannel stream, and records the created plural pieces of search information on the recording medium. The present method makes it possible to selectively search and reproduce each substream among a multi-channel stream recorded on a recording medium, thereby improving use convenience of a recording machine such as a digital video recorder.

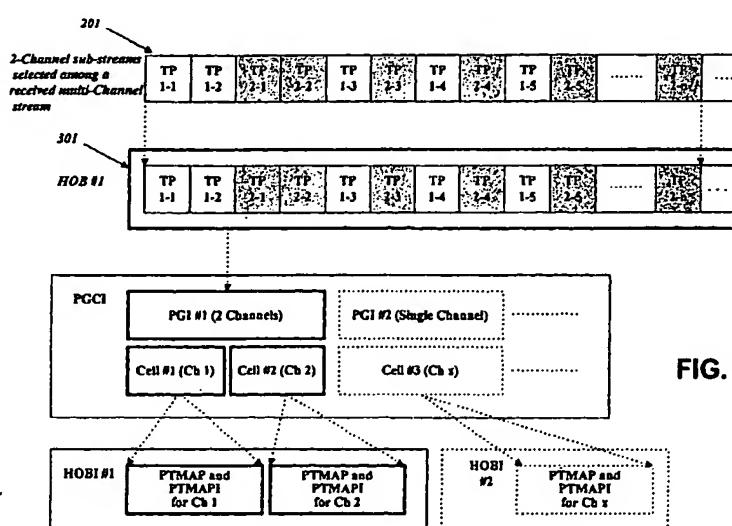


FIG. 3

Description**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****Field of the Invention**

[0001] The present invention relates to method and apparatus of recording a multi-channel data stream on a recording medium, e.g., a writable high-density digital versatile disk (abbreviated to HD-DVD hereinafter) in such a manner that substreams of digital channels constituting the multi-channel data stream can be distinguished each other in reproduction.

[0002] The present invention further relates to a recording medium on which a multi-channel data stream is recorded in such a manner that substreams of digital channels constituting the multi-channel data stream can be distinguished each other in reproduction.

Description of the Related Art

[0003] Owing to technical improvement in the fields of video/audio data compression, digital modulation/demodulation, and so on, a digital television broadcast system broadcasting TV signals in the form of digital data stream is being standardized rapidly.

[0004] In the digital television broadcast system, audio/video (A/V) signals to be broadcasted are compressed according to the data compressing rule specified by MPEG 2 (Moving Picture Experts Group) and the compressed A/V data are broadcasted in the form of transport stream (TS), which is also defined in MPEG 2 standard, composed of successive 188-byte-long transport packets (TPs).

[0005] The digital TV broadcast system, which will be commercialized soon owing to technical improvement of A/V data compression and transmission, is able to support much higher-quality of video and audio than an analog TV system. Furthermore, it ensures data compatibility with a digital communication device, a digital storage device, etc.

[0006] In the meantime, a new device is being developed to prepare for commercialization of digital TV broadcast system. That is a digital recorder being able to receive TS of digital broadcast programs and to record it on a writable HD-DVD. Such a digital recorder will be widely used as the digital TV broadcast system is commercialized in earnest.

[0007] A single physical broadcast channel (called RF channel in general) has about 6MHz bandwidth which ensures 19.4Mbps data rate. This data rate can carry a single HD-TV broadcast signal or about four SD-TV signals. Such a logical or virtual channel carrying one SD-TV signal in an RF channel is called digital channel.

[0008] In other words, a single RF channel sometimes includes several digital channels, namely, sub-channels which carry mutually-different broadcast programs.

[0009] Therefore, a DVD recorder being developed

may have to record two or more digital channels simultaneously at a users request. However, if a DVD recorder records a plurality of digital channels and creates management information through the same manner as it does for a single digital channel, a DVD could not tell digital channels apart among a recorded stream of digital channels. Namely, a user could not select only one program, i.e., one digital channel to be reproduced among the recorded plurality of digital channels.

10 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0010] It is an object of the present invention to provide method and apparatus of recording a multi-channel stream on a recording medium in a manner that substreams in the multi-channel stream can be distinguished each other in reproduction mode by management information and/or by totally or partially area-separate recording.

[0011] A method of recording a multi-channel on a recording medium in accordance with the present invention is characterized in that it comprises the steps of: recording a multi-channel stream composed of substreams belonging to a plurality of channels and unitizing the recorded stream to a single stream object; and creating search information for each substream contained in the recorded multi-channel stream unitized to the single stream object and recording the created search information on a recording medium.

[0012] An apparatus of recording a multi-channel on a recording medium in accordance with the present invention is characterized in that it comprises: a data receiver receiving at least one RF channel of a digital broadcast signal to output a multi-channel stream composed of substreams belonging to selected plural sub-channels; and a recording means recording the multi-channel stream on a recording medium, unitizing the recorded stream to a single stream object, creating search information for each substream contained in the recorded stream, and recording the created search information on the recording medium.

[0013] The accompanying drawings, which are included to provide a further understanding of the present invention, illustrate the preferred embodiments of the invention, and together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the present invention, and wherein:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0014] Fig. 1 is a block diagram of an apparatus recording a multi-channel stream in accordance with the present invention;

[0015] Fig. 2 illustrates a series of transport packets belonging to two sub-channels outputted in the form of single stream or mutually-separated streams;

[0016] Fig. 3 illustrates the first embodiment of creating

navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single high-density stream object unit (abbreviated to HOB hereinafter) in accordance with the present invention; Figs. 4 to 7 are illustrative structures of navigation data created when a multi-channel stream is recorded as shown in Fig. 3; Fig. 8 illustrates the second embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 9 illustrates the third embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 10 illustrates the fourth embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 11 illustrates the fifth embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention; and Fig. 12 illustrates the sixth embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0014] In order that the invention may be fully understood, a preferred embodiment thereof will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

[0015] Fig. 1 is a block diagram of an apparatus recording a multi-channel stream in accordance with the present invention.

[0016] The apparatus of Fig. 1 may be a digital video recorder (DVR) being able to record a digital broadcast signal on a recording medium, e.g., a writable HD-DVD. The apparatus comprises a tuner 10 tuning its passband to at least one RF band of digital broadcast TV signal; a stream selector 11 selecting a plurality of substreams belonging to chosen digital channels (or sub-channels) from a data stream of an RF channel or channels passed by the tuner 10; a recording processor 12 recording the selected substreams in a single HOB (High-Density Stream Object) or HOBs according to a preset recording mode, creating and writing navigation data every a recorded substream; an optical pickup 13 forming mark/space patterns on a HD-DVD 100 in accordance with bit patterns of stream and navigation data outputted from the recording processor 12; and a controller 14 conducting overall control operations of all elements for multi-stream record.

[0017] The tuner 10 passes one digital broadcast TV channel, namely, an RF channel selected by the controller 14. The stream selector 11 extracts transport

packets (TPs) belonging to several, e.g., 2 digital channels selected through the controller 14 from a multi-channel stream of the RF channel passed by the tuner 10. The extracted series of TPs by the stream selector 11 is outputted in the form of single stream 201 or mutually-separated streams 202₁ and 202₂, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

[0018] The tuner 10 can also pass multiple RF channels. In multiple passing mode, the stream selector 11 is also able to extract more than one substream from each RF channel to output a series of TPs belonging to digital channels chosen from available channels offered by respective RF channels.

[0019] For the convenience of explanation, it is supposed in all embodiments described in below that the stream selector 11 selects two substreams, namely, two digital channels from a received multi-channel stream.

[0020] The recording processor 12 can distinguish two digital-channel substreams, namely, the first and the second substream each other based on packet ID (PID) written in every TP outputted from the stream selector 11.

[0021] The first and the second digital-channel substream are recorded according to a preset recording mode. If the preset recording mode is mixed, the recording processor 12 records two multiplexed substreams in a single allocated HOB 301 as they are received from the stream selector 12 as shown in Fig. 3.

[0022] In the meantime, the recording processor 12 creates navigation data for each digital-channel substream based on the distinguished digital-channel information and each substream recording information. The way how navigation data is created is described below in detail.

[0023] Fig. 3 illustrates the first embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention.

[0024] A recording medium for recording a digital broadcast signal has a provisional recording standard. According to the provisional recording standard, a recording medium shall have Program Chain Information (PGCI) prepared for index of every recorded program and for reproduction order among them. The PGCI includes Program Information (PGI) and Cell Information (CI) which are respectively created for each single data stream continuously recorded from recording start to stop. Furthermore, a single Presentation Time Map (PTMAP) shall be created for each single recorded data stream according to the provisional recording standard. The PTMAP, used for stream search, has collection of position data or position-related time length data for every data unit constituting a recorded data stream. Search pointer and information of each PTMAP are included in HOB Information (HOBI).

[0025] However, for two substreams recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the first embodiment of the present invention, not single but two pieces of CI Cell

#1 and Cell #2 and not single but two pieces of PTMAPI for two PTMAPs are created respectively, and a single piece of PGI PGI #1 is created, as shown in Fig. 3. Consequently, plural pieces of CI, namely, two pieces of CI are associated with single piece of PGI in this embodiment, which means that single piece of CI includes information on only one substream of a single digital channel.

[0026] The PGI and the CI are written in the PGCI while the PTMAP and the PTMAPI are in the HOBI.

[0027] In general, navigation data such as PGCI and HOBI is loaded into a memory (not figured) from the HD-DVD 100 during recording mode, and the pieces of PGI, CI and HOBI created as above are inserted in the navigation data which will be stored in a navigation data area of the HD-DVD 100 after the substreams of plural digital channels are completely recorded.

[0028] Figs. 4 to 7 are illustrative structures of navigation data created when a multi-channel stream is recorded as shown in Fig. 3.

[0029] The PGCI of Fig. 4 includes program chain general information PGC_GI, plural pieces of PGI PGI #1 to #n, a plurality of CI search pointers CI_SRP #1 to #m, and plural pieces of CI CI #1 to #m. Each piece of PGI includes fields of program type PG_TY and the number of CI C_Ns.

[0030] The program type PG_TY, 8-bit long, is composed of Protect flag, S/M flag, 3-bit number of channels Channel_Ns and Reserved as shown in Fig. 5. The Protect flag indicates whether an associated program (PG), equivalent to a conceptually-unitized stream, is erasable or not. The S/M indicates whether an associated PG includes a single-channel or a multi-channel stream, and the number of channels Channel_Ns describes the number of digital channels included in a recorded stream of an associated PG.

[0031] For example, for the HOBI #1 of Fig. 3 in which two substreams of two digital channels are recorded, 010 (=2) is written in the field Channel_Ns allocated in the program type PG_TY of the first piece of PGI PGI #1 and the S/M flag allocated in the program type PG_TY is set to represent multi-channel stream. Furthermore, because a piece of CI is created for each digital channel, 2 is written in the field C_Ns of the first piece of PGI PGI #1 for the recording example of Fig. 3.

[0032] Each piece of CI is, as shown in Fig. 4, composed of five fields of cell type C_TY, HOBI search pointer number HOBI_SRP, PTMAP number PTMAPN, start PTM of a cell C_V_S_PT, and end PTM of a cell C_V_E_PT.

[0033] The field C_TY, 8-bit long, is composed of sub-fields of 2-bit cell type C_TY1, 3-bit channel number of a cell C_CH_N, and reserved as shown in Fig. 6 where the sub-field C_TY1 indicates whether a cell is related with multi-channel or single-channel stream, and the sub-field C_CH_N describes digital channel number of a recorded substream referred by a cell.

[0034] For example, digital channel numbers of the

first and the second substream are respectively written in those sub-fields C_CH_N of the two pieces of CI CIs #1 and #2 referring to the HOBI #1 of Fig. 3 in which two substreams of two digital channels are included.

5 [0035] The HOBI, linked with the CI through the field HOBI_SRP, included in each piece of CI, comprises HOBI general information HOBI_GI, a plurality of PTMAP search pointers PTMAP_SRP #1 to #n, and plural pieces of PTMAP information PTMAPI #1 to #n, as shown in Fig. 7.

10 [0036] The HOBI general information HOBI_GI consists of many fields of HOBI type HOBI_TY, HOBI recording time HOBI_REC_TM, start PTM of a HOBI, end PTM of a HOBI, the number of PTMAPs PTMAP_Ns, and start 15 addresses of all PTMAPs PTMAP_SA #i.

[0037] The PTMAPI includes PTMAP general information PTMAP_GI and entries of random accessible HOBI units HOBI_ENT #1 to #j. The PTMAP general information PTMAP_GI is composed of fields of video

20 V_PID and audio packet ID A_PID, indicative of respective PIDs of audio and video TPs constituting a recorded stream associated with a PTMAP, HOBI index number HOBI_STIN, the number of random accessible HOBI units HOBI_ENT_Ns, start PTM of a PTMAP 25 PTMAP_S_PT, and end PTM of a PTMAP PTMAP_E_PT.

[0038] The navigation data structured as shown in Figs. 4 to 7 is created and recorded for a recorded multi-channel stream, as a result, when a HOBI is chosen to 30 be reproduced it can be known that the chosen HOBI contains substreams of a plurality of digital channels based on the program type PG_TY and the number of CI C_Ns in a piece of PGI, included in the PGCI, associated with the chosen HOBI.

35 [0039] Each digital channel number can be known from a piece of CI of which index number is equal to that of the PGI.

[0040] When searching a substream of a chosen digital channel contained in a recorded multi-channel

40 stream in a HOBI, a PTMAP associated with a substream of the chosen digital channel is determined first based on the information written in the number of PTMAPs PTMAP_Ns, each PTMAP start address PTMAP_SA #i, and start and end PTM of a PTMAP PTMAP_S_PT and 45 PTMAP_E_PT of the PTMAP general information PTMAP_GI of each piece of PTMAP information PTMAPI #i. Next, a substream of the chosen digital channel is searched and then reproduced selectively among a recorded multi-channel stream using PTM incremental

50 time and size of each data unit written in the determined PTMAP.

[0041] Fig. 8 illustrates the second embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOBI in accordance 55 with the present invention.

[0042] This second embodiment of Fig. 8 is different from the first of Fig. 3 in that a single piece of CI is created. However, the PTMAPI used for substream-distin-

guishable searching is created the same as the first embodiment, namely, as many pieces of PTMAPI as the number of digital channels contained in a multi-channel stream are created.

[0043] Since this second embodiment is different from the first in the number of pieces of CI created after recording substreams of a plurality of digital channels, the structure of the CI is changed from Fig. 4.

[0044] A piece of CI of this second embodiment includes a field of the number of channels besides the fields of Fig. 4, and the field group composed of the PTMAP number PTMAPN, start PTM of a cell C_V_S_PTM, and end PTM of a cell C_V_E_PTM is created as many as the number of digital channels contained in a recorded stream referred by the piece of CI. In addition, an additional field for writing digital channel numbers is reserved in the piece of CI since a single piece of CI covers all of digital channels contained in a recorded multi-channel stream.

[0045] Since the CI has information on the number of channels of a recorded stream, the PGI need not have that information. Accordingly, in this second embodiment, the 3-bit sub-field Channel_Ns of Fig. 5 allocated in the program type PG_TY is removed from the PGI.

[0046] In addition, because a single piece of CI is created even though a stream of a plurality of digital channels is recorded, the field C_Ns indicative of the number of pieces of CI is removed from the PGI of Fig. 4.

[0047] Even in this second embodiment, all information on every recorded substream of every digital channel is included in navigation data the same as in the first embodiment. Therefore, a substream of a selected digital channel only can be searched and reproduced among mixed multiple substreams.

[0048] Fig. 9 illustrates the third embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention.

[0049] This third embodiment of Fig. 9 creates and records as many pieces of PGI as the number of digital channels, besides CI and PTMAPI.

[0050] Therefore, in this third embodiment, a piece of PGI covers only single substream contained in a multi-channel streams. In this case, since a piece of PGI shall accompany at least one piece of CI a piece of CI need not reserve a field for information about a plurality of digital channels. Therefore, the sub-fields of Fig. 6, namely, the cell type C_TY1 allocated for identifying multi or single stream and the channel number C_CH_N need not be assigned in a piece of CI. Furthermore, the PTMAP number field PTMAPN is removed from CI fields.

[0051] In addition, since a piece of PGI is created for each substream, a piece of PGI need not manage plural channels, so that the sub-field Channel_Ns allocated in the program type PG_TY of Fig. 5 is not necessary. Instead, a new field for writing channel number of an associated substream shall be allocated in the PGI.

[0052] Fig. 10 illustrates the fourth embodiment of

creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention.

[0053] This fourth embodiment of Fig. 10 is different from the first of Fig. 3 in that PTMAPI 1001 for a multi-channel stream is further created besides respective PTMAPI for each substream.

[0054] Since there are two types of PTMAPI for a single substream and entire substreams multiplexed in a multi-channel stream it is necessary to distinguish types. Thus, an additional PTMAP type field for distinguishing types, namely, single and mixed shall be allocated in the PTMAP general information PTMAP_GI in Fig. 7. The same as PTMAPI, the CI shall be distinguished by the type of a referred stream, namely, single for a single substream and mixed for entire substreams, so that an additional field for writing single or mixed is needed in the CI. However, instead of allocating the additional field, the cell type C_TY1 of Fig. 6 may be used for this type discrimination by respective new codes assigned to single and mixed.

[0055] The PTMAP for a multi-channel stream may not be created in stream recording. Instead, it is constructed from PTMAPs of respective substreams when it is necessary.

[0056] In this fourth embodiment of Fig. 10, three pieces of CI are created even though two substreams are recorded. As a result, for the illustrative multi-channel stream record of Fig. 10, 3 (=the number of channels +1) is written in the field C_Ns of a piece of PGI and the number (=2) of actual channels is written in the sub-field Channel_Ns in the program type PG_TY.

[0057] In addition, special code, e.g., zero (=0), which is not used as an actual channel number, is written in the channel number sub-field C_CH_N of the CI referring to a multi-channel stream. The object of using such a special code is to identify easily which navigation data is associated with an entire multi-stream in case that a channel number can not be assigned when a multi-channel stream is to be searched or reproduced not selectively but overall as it is recorded.

[0058] Fig. 11 illustrates the fifth embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention.

[0059] This fifth embodiment of Fig. 11 is different from the second of Fig. 8 in that PTMAPI 1001 for a multi-channel stream is further created besides respective PTMAPI for each substream.

[0060] The same as the fourth embodiment, this fifth embodiment includes an additional PTMAP type field for single and mixed in the PTMAP general information PTMAP_GI in Fig. 7.

[0061] The PTMAP for a multi-channel stream may not be created in stream recording. Instead, it is constructed from PTMAPs of respective substreams when it is necessary.

[0062] This fifth embodiment of Fig. 11, similar to the

second embodiment, has an additional field for writing the number of virtual channels, in which the number of actual digital channels+1 is written, in the CI besides the fields of Fig. 4. And It has also as many field groups as the number of digital channels plus 1 in the CI. A field group is composed of the PTMAP number PTMAPN, start PTM of a cell C_V_S_PTM, and end PTM of a cell C_V_E_PTM.

[0063] In addition, a new field for writing single or mixed is created for each field group in the CI to indicate whether a field group is related with a single or a multi-channel stream. And, another new field for writing channel number of a related substream or multi-channel stream is also allocated for each field group because a single piece of CI manages a plurality of substreams.

[0064] A special code, e.g., zero (=0) is written in the new channel number field of a field group assigned to a multi-channel stream to achieve the same object with the fourth embodiment.

[0065] Fig. 12 illustrates the sixth embodiment of creating navigation data for substreams of a plurality of digital channels recorded in a single HOB in accordance with the present invention.

[0066] This sixth embodiment of Fig. 12 is different from the third of Fig. 9 in that PTMAPI 1001 for a multi-channel stream is further created besides respective PTMAPI for each substream.

[0067] The same as the fourth embodiment, this sixth embodiment includes an additional PTMAP type field for single and mixed in the PTMAP general information PTMAP_GI in Fig. 7. The same as PTMAPI, the CI shall be distinguished by the type of a referred stream, namely, single for a single substream and mixed for entire substreams, so that an additional field for writing single or mixed is needed in the CI. However, instead of allocating the additional field, the cell type C_TY1 of Fig. 6 may be used for this type discrimination by respective new codes assigned to single and mixed.

[0068] Since a piece of PGI is created even for a multi-channel stream in this sixth embodiment, a piece of PGI must have an additional field for PGI type, namely, single or mixed or have respective codes for single or mixed.

[0069] The PTMAP for a multi-channel stream may not be created in stream recording. Instead, it is constructed from PTMAPs of respective substreams when it is necessary.

[0070] This sixth embodiment creates a piece of PGI for each substream the same as the third embodiment, so that the CI need not have information for a plurality of channels. Consequently, the channel number C_CH_N is not necessary, and the PTMAP number PTMAPN is not necessarily assigned in the CI, either.

[0071] Furthermore, since there is no need that a piece of PGI manages a plurality of channels, the sub-field Channel_Ns in the program type PG_TY of Fig. 5 is not necessary. Instead, an additional field for writing channel number of a related stream shall be allocated

in the PGI.

[0072] A special code, e.g., 0 is written in this channel number field allocated newly in the PGI associated with a multi-channel stream.

5 [0073] The above-explained multi-channel stream recording method and apparatus make it possible to selectively search and reproduce each substream among a multi-channel stream recorded on a recording medium, thereby improving use convenience of a recording machine such as a digital video recorder.

10 [0074] Summarized, the present invention relates to method and apparatus of recording a multi-channel data stream on a recording medium in such a manner that substreams of digital channels constituting the multi-

15 channel data stream can be distinguished each other in reproduction. The present recording method records a multi-channel stream composed of substreams belonging to plural selected channels on a recording medium, utilizes the recorded stream to a single stream object,

20 creates a piece of search information for each substream contained in the recorded multi-channel stream, and records the created plural pieces of search information on the recording medium. The present method makes it possible to selectively search and reproduce

25 each substream among a multi-channel stream recorded on a recording medium, thereby improving use convenience of a recording machine such as a digital video recorder.

30 [0075] It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modifications and variations can be made in the present invention without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention. Thus, it is intended that the present invention cover the modifications and variations of this invention provided they come within the scope of 35 the appended claims and their equivalents.

Claims

40 1. A method of recording a multi-channel on a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

(a) recording a multi-channel stream composed of substreams belonging to a plurality of channels and utilizing the recorded stream to a single stream object; and

45 (b) creating search information for each substream contained in the recorded multi-channel stream utilized to the single stream object and recording the created search information on a recording medium.

50 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) further creates a single piece of program information and as many pieces of cell information as the number of substreams for the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step (b) further creates a piece of cell information for the recorded multi-channel stream besides pieces of cell information for every substream.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the search information includes a type field indicating whether an associated stream is a single substream or a multi-channel stream.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein the piece of program information includes a field for writing the number of the plurality of channels.

6. The method of claim 2, wherein the piece of program information includes a field for writing the number of the created pieces of cell information.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) further creates a single piece of program information and a single piece of cell information for the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the single piece of cell information includes information about every search information created in said step (b).

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the single piece of cell information further includes information about search information created for not the substream but the multi-channel stream in said step (b).

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the search information includes a type field indicating whether an associated stream is single substream or a multi-channel stream.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the piece of cell information includes a field for writing the number of the plurality of channels contained in the multi-channel stream.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) further creates a couple of pieces of program information and cell information for each substream contained in the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said step (b) further creates a couple of pieces of program information and cell information for the recorded multi-channel stream besides pieces of program information and cell information for every substream.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the search information includes a type field indicating whether an associated stream is a single substream or a multi-channel stream.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) further creates at least one piece of program information and at least one piece of cell information for the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the piece of program information includes a type field indicating whether an associated stream is a single substream or a multi-channel stream.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the piece of cell information includes a type field indicating whether an associated stream is a single substream or a multi-channel stream.

18. An apparatus of recording a multi-channel on a recording medium, comprising:
a data receiver receiving at least one RF channel of a digital broadcast signal to output a multi-channel stream composed of substreams belonging to selected plural sub-channels; and a recording means recording the multi-channel stream on a recording medium, unitizing the recorded stream to a single stream object, creating search information for each substream contained in the recorded stream, and recording the created search information on the recording medium.

19. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said recording means further creates a single piece of program information and as many pieces of cell information as the number of substreams for the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein said recording means further creates a piece of cell information for the recorded multi-channel stream besides pieces of cell information for every substream.

21. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said recording means further creates a single piece of program information and a single piece of cell information for the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

22. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said recording means further creates a couple of pieces of program information and cell information for each substream contained in the single stream object, and records on the recording medium.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said recording means further creates a couple of pieces of pro-

gram information and cell information for the recorded multi-channel stream besides pieces of program information and cell information for every sub-stream.

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24. A recording medium for recording digital data stream, comprising:

a multi-channel stream composed of sub-streams belonging to a plurality of channels, the multi-channel stream being unitized to a single stream object;

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plural pieces of search information created for each of the substreams contained in the stream object; and

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at least one piece of program information and at least one piece of cell information created for the multi-channel stream in the single stream object.

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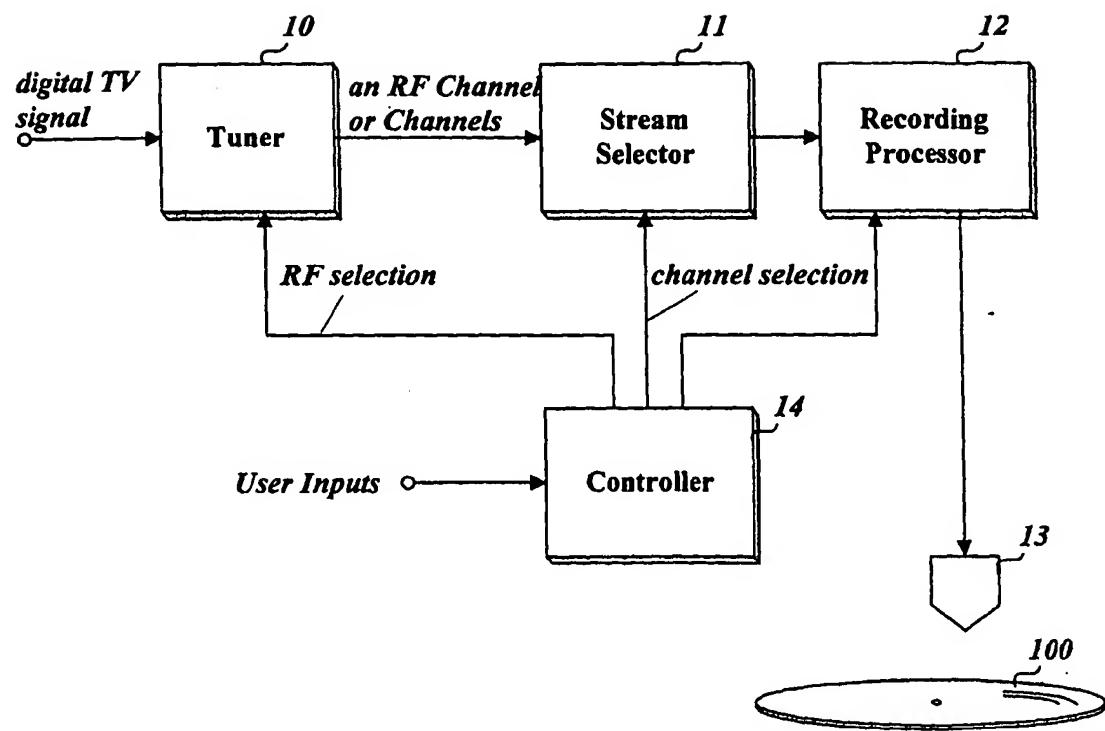
40

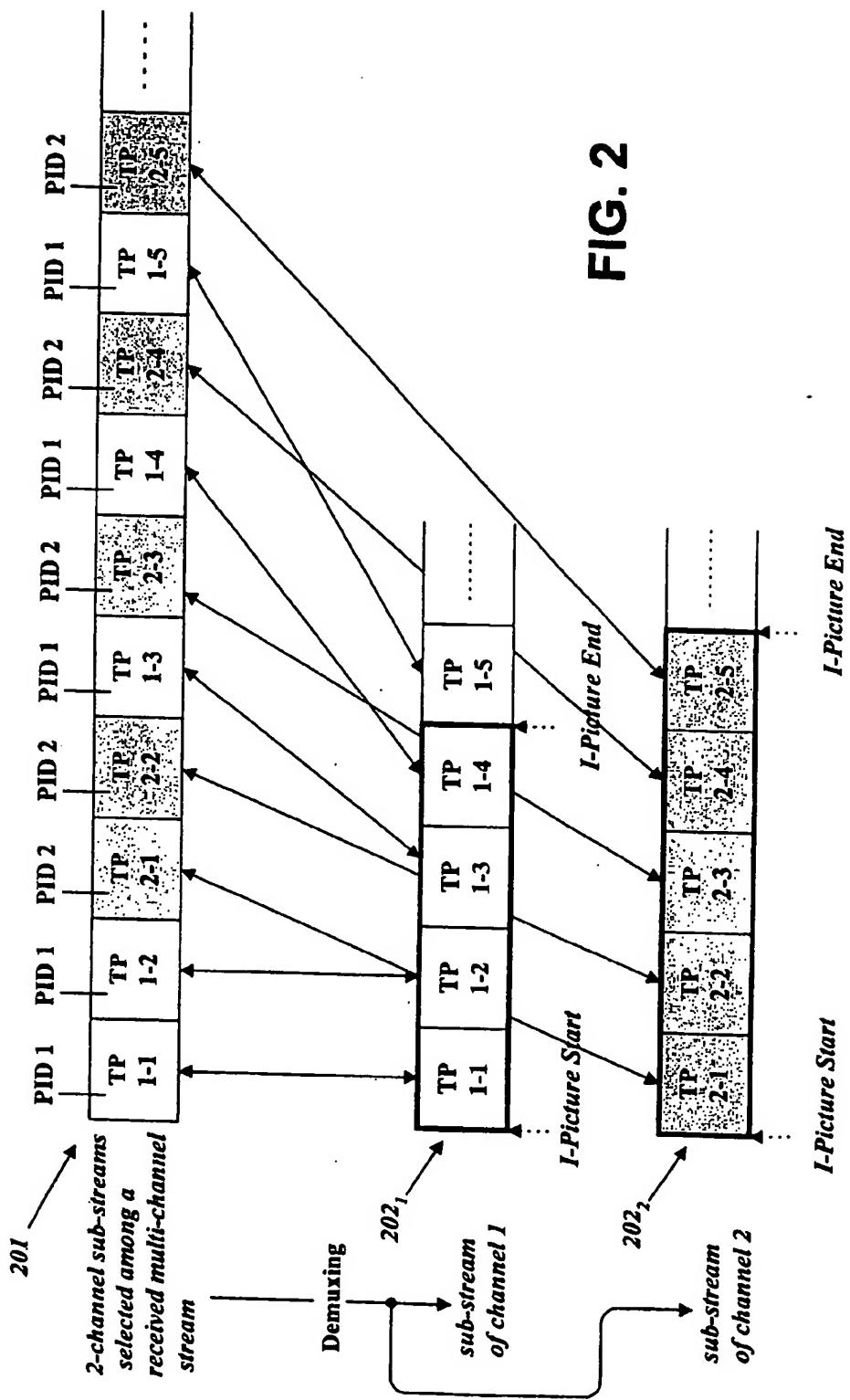
45

50

55

FIG. 1





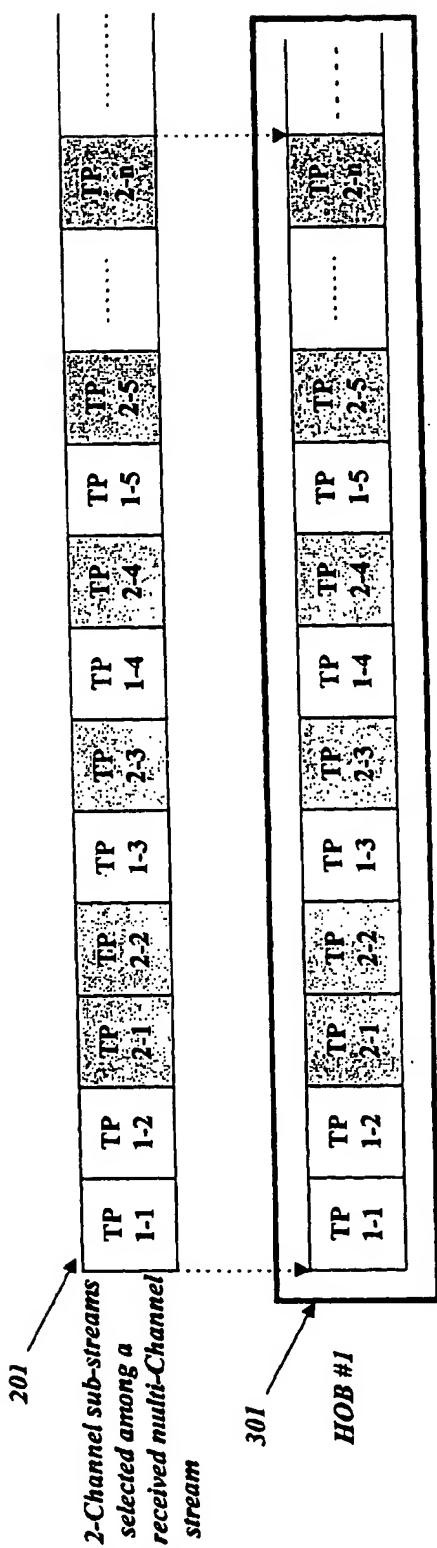


FIG. 3

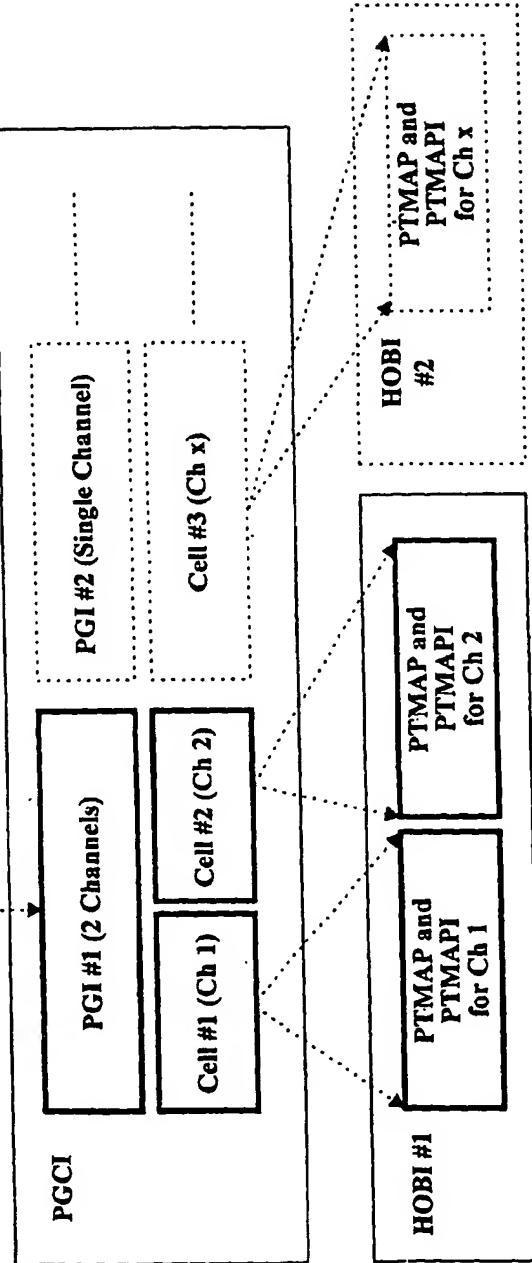


FIG. 4*PGC Information # i (PGCI # i)*

PGC General Information (PGC_GI)
Program Information # 1 (PGI #1)
⋮
Program Information # k (PGI #k)
⋮
Program Information # n (PGI #n)
Cell Information Search Pointer #1 (CI_SRP #1)
⋮
Cell Information Search Pointer #n (CI_SRP #m)
Cell Information #1 (CI #1)
⋮
Cell Information #k (CI #k)
⋮
Cell Information #m (CI #m)

Reserved
PG_TY (Program Type)
C_Ns (Number of Cells in this PG)
PRM_TXTI (Primary Text Information)
REP_PI (Representative Picture Information)
THM_SRPN (Thumbnail Search Pointer Number)
IT_TXT_SRPN (IT_TXT Search Pointer Number for this Play List)
C_TY (Cell Type)
HOBI_SRPN (HOBI Search Pointer Number)
PTMAPN (PTMAP Number)
C_V_S_PT (start PTM of this Cell)
C_V_E_PT (End PTM of this Cell)

FIG. 5*Program Type*

b7	b6	b5	b4	b3	b2	b1	b0
Protect	S/M	Reserved			Channel_Ns		

Protect ----- 0b : This PG is not in protected state

1b : This PG is in protected state

S/M ----- 0b : This PG has single-channel stream

1b : This PG has multi-channel stream

Channel_Ns ----- Number of broadcast digital channels referred by this PG

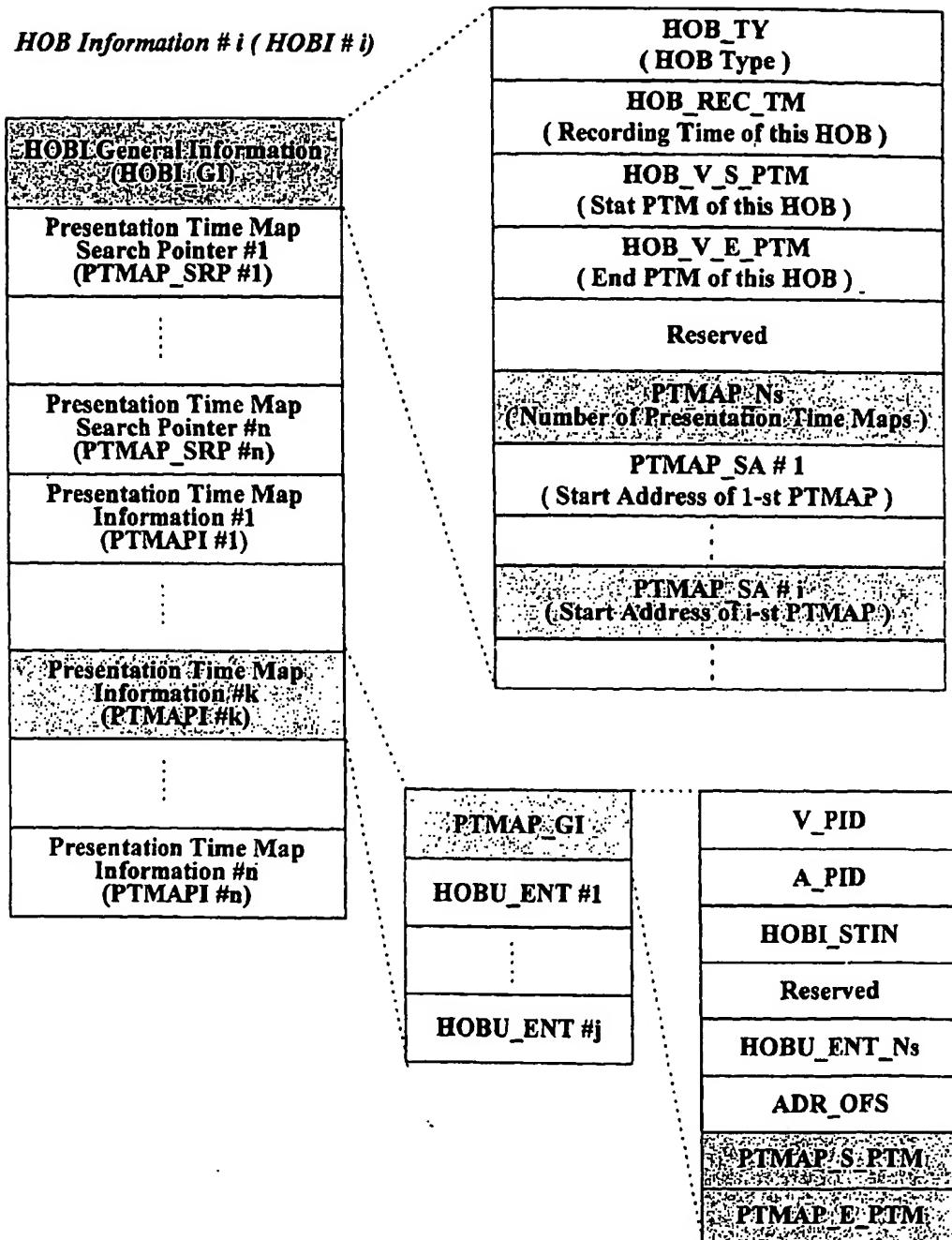
FIG. 6*Cell Type*

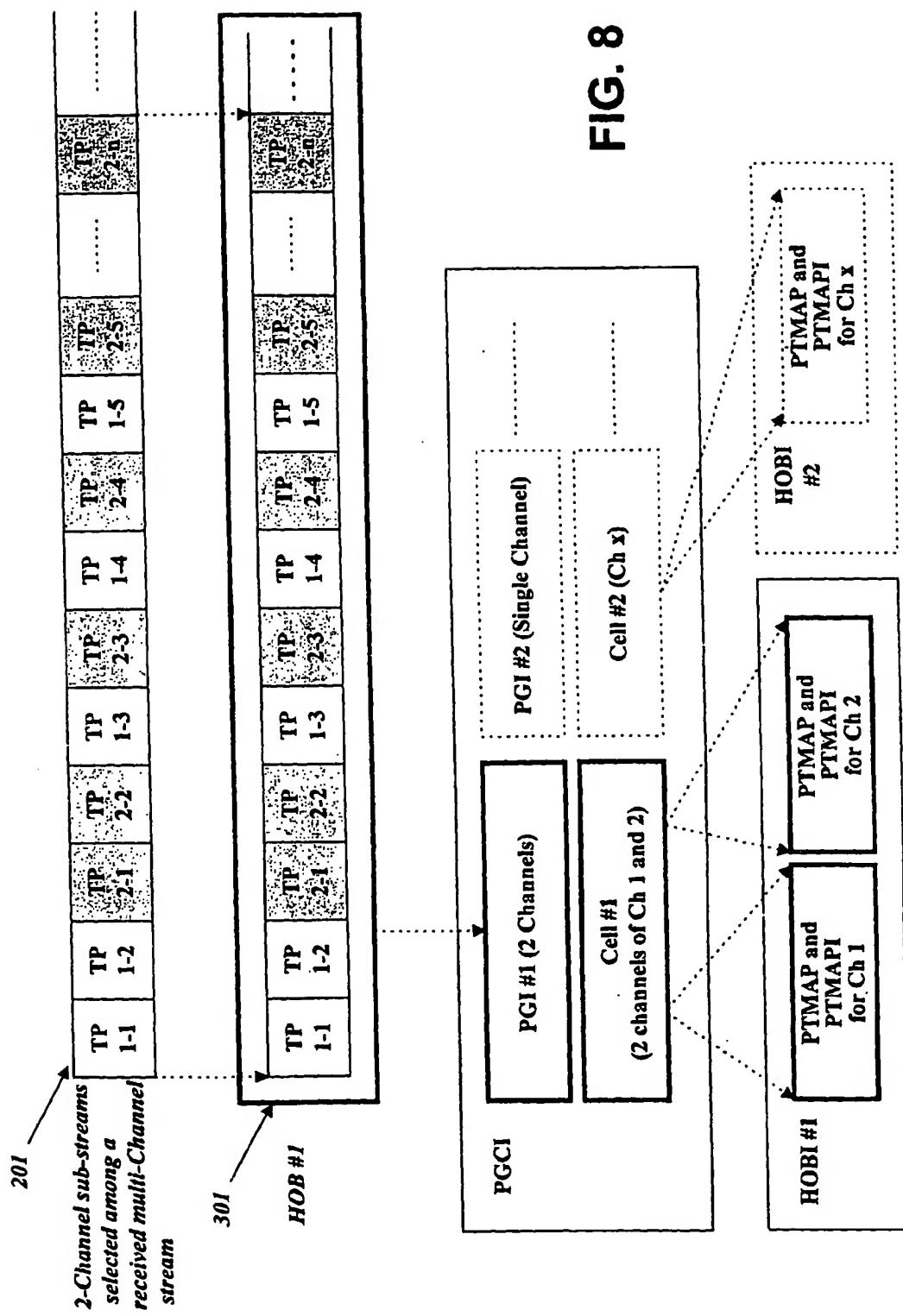
b7	b6	b5	b4	b3	b2	b1	b0
C_TY1	Reserved			C_CH_N			

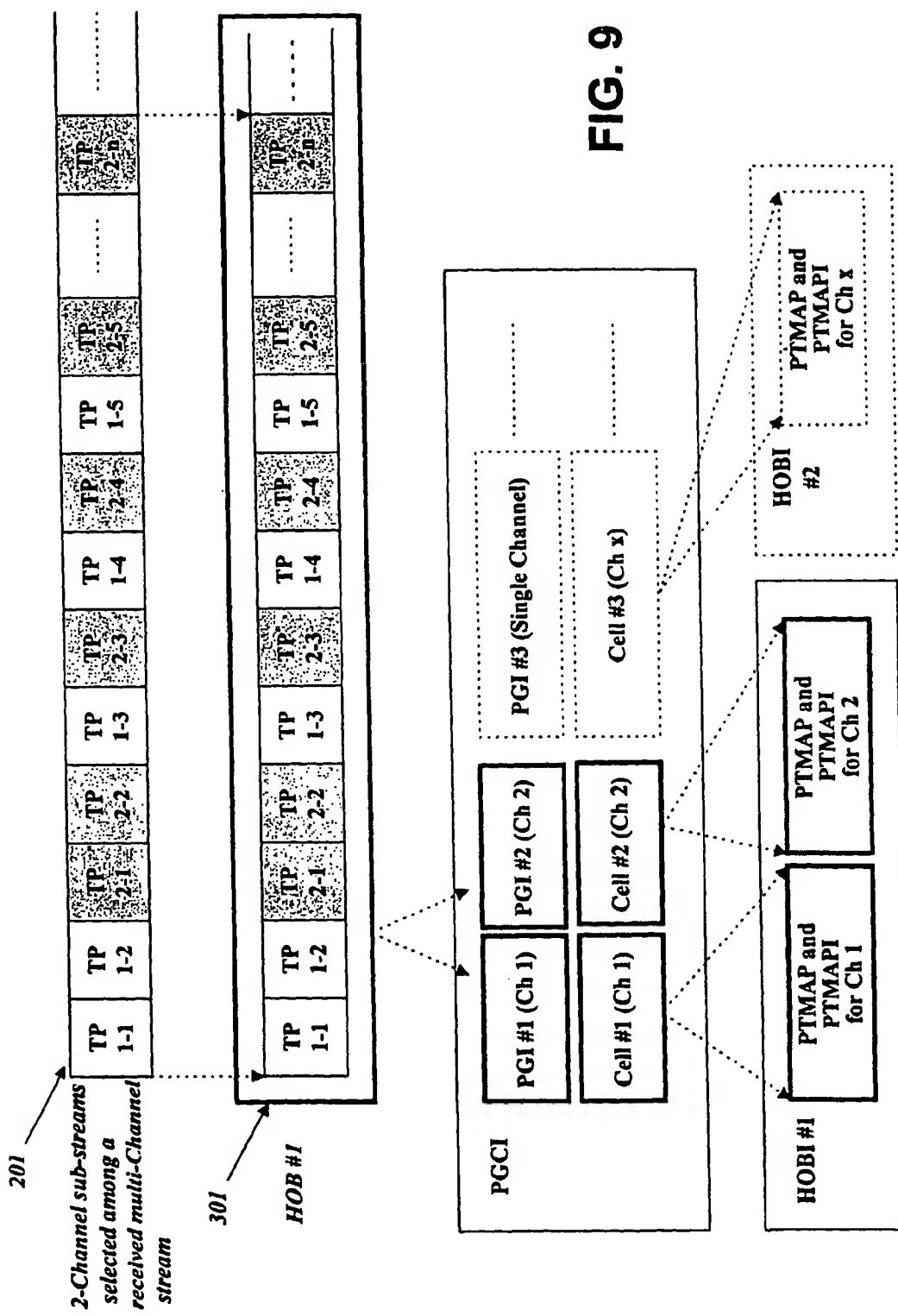
C_TY1 ----- single/multiple channel

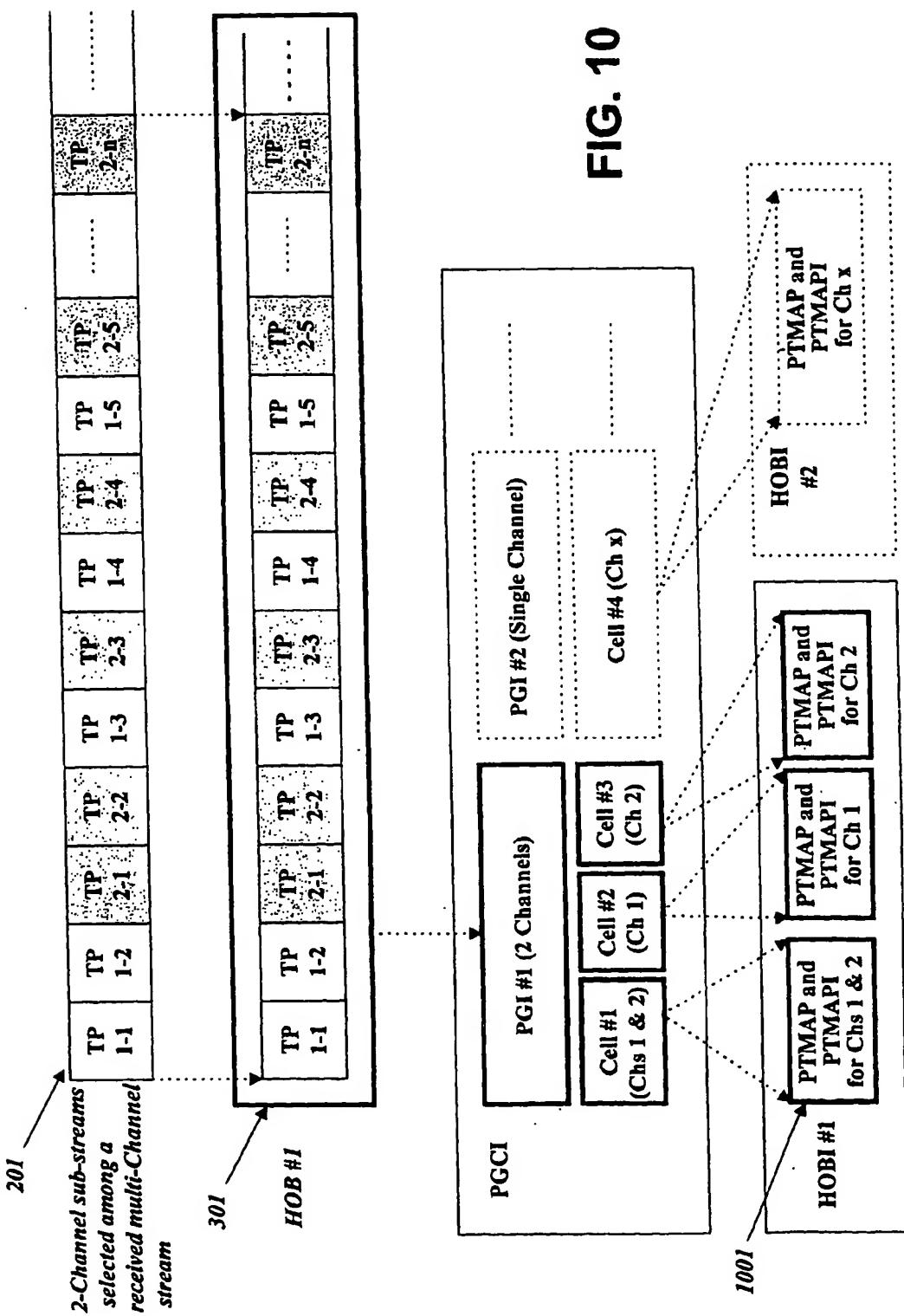
C_CH_N ----- broadcast digital channel number referred by this Cell

FIG. 7









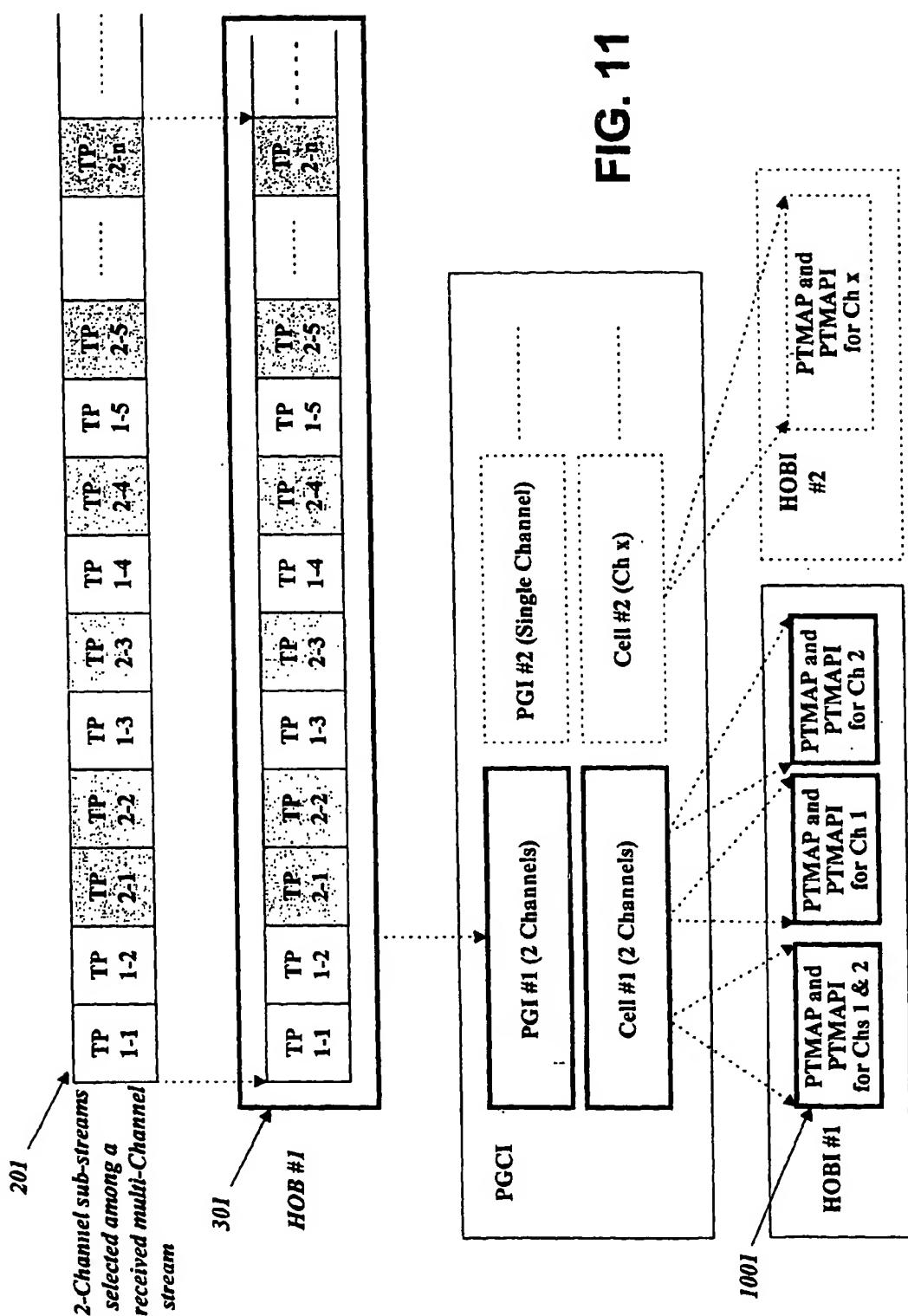


FIG. 12

